

Dear Beloved People of Divine Savior and our cherished visitors:

Our Scripture passages focus on imagery about how the world might end. As we know only too well, some people interpret this kind of writing literally. Some get so excited by this imagery that they do their best consciously or unconsciously to help move the process along, thinking that they will be among those who are saved while they have the so-called honor to watch the bad (in their mind) people suffer most gruesomely.

Jesus calls us to look into our hearts and ask some serious and deep questions. One is, "why would God destroy what He created?" When we look at the millions of years of the universe's existence and see the amazing development over those years, isn't it possible to imagine that the Holy Spirit will gradually lead us all into an entirely different realm called the Kingdom of Heaven?

Sometimes positive change can be just as or even more frightening than all the destruction depicted in these readings. This certainly seems to be the case with all those who oppose Pope Francis. They appear to think that he is a divisive element in the church when actually he is dedicating his life to have all of us see one another as the beloved children of God, including those we otherwise might think of as sinners who are to be rejected and cast aside.

People accuse him of destroying sacred traditions when all he is doing is seeing if there are ways for more people to experience the great celebration of the Mass. Some simply think he is on the wrong track. While Pope Francis might not be perfect, he is doing his best to bring as many people as possible into the faith community Jesus established. Wasn't Jesus condemned by the legalistic and tradition-bound people of His day for doing something quite similar?

Change of any kind can be very unsettling. We are called to look at possibilities by which people can be welcomed into the community with the goodness in our hearts and intuition; we are asked to consider whether some dogmas, traditions and rules have outworn their usefulness. Instead of arguing or finding fault, perhaps it is time to let the Holy Spirit within us empower us to let the love of God lead us to find ways to be as inclusive as possible, again providing the opportunity for people to be welcomed with the conviction that once welcomed and surrounded by a loving community any realities that are actually not of benefit to an individual or to a community have a better chance of being changed.

Jesus says that many will come in His name. We know only too well that some people, for whatever reason, have a false or distorted image of Jesus and God. Through it all, Jesus reminds us that whatever confusion, disorder, chaos, and destructive behavior that is taking place, we are the ones, rooted in the love of God, who are to give testimony to the truth of God's love.

Jesus reminds us not to prepare beforehand, but again to be focused on the indwelling of God's Word, grace and wisdom that all of those who oppose us will be powerless to resist or refute. Jesus uses the corny image that not a hair on our head will be destroyed as we act out of the promise that the Truth of God's love will set all people free.

~Fr. Roman

Schedule for the week of November 18th—November 24th

Table with 3 columns: Time, Activity, Location. Rows include Monday-November 18th (Fr. Roman's small faith group at Church), Tuesday-November 19th (Centering Prayer at St. Cecilia Rm, Quest Session at M-3), and Thursday-November 21st (Prayer Shawl Ministry at Library, Community Meal at Halls).

St. Vincent de Paul Collection-THIS Weekend

THIS weekend, November 16th & 17th, a 2nd collection will take place to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP) here at Divine Savior. Twice a week there are office hours staffed by volunteers to support clients with financial help like SMUD, PG&E, rental assistance and provide to access to the food pantry and clothes closet. Any donations received will be used to provide services to the needy in the community. SVDP goal is to keep people in their homes by helping relieve other financial burdens. Please make checks payable to St. Vincent de Paul.

Second Collection-Next Weekend

Next week our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. More than 46 million people in the United States live in poverty today. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address obstacles as they work to make permanent and positive changes for their communities. Special envelopes are available in the vestibule. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd/collection.



CHRISTMAS BASKET-SPONSORS NEEDED!!!

SPONSOR Family applications are available in the vestibule, the church office and via the parish website; these applications have a bright orange sheet attached. You can turn in the forms in the tray in the vestibule, collection basket, in the office or take a picture of the form and email it. Questions about the Christmas Basket Ministry? Call 916-220-2604 or email: christmasbasket@divinesavior.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Table of Mass Intentions for November 16th to 24th, listing dates, times, and names of those for whom Mass is intended.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Table of Readings for the week, listing days and corresponding Bible verses.

Pray for our Military Personnel wherever duty calls them to serve, homeland or overseas.

Adrienne Aleschus, James Aleschus, John Aleschus, Logan Amos, Sean Amos, James Atwood, Andrew Bauer, Jordan Biasotti, Anthony Brooks, Jonathan Brooks, Jacob Camarillo, Aimee Chabot, Ephrem Choi, Elsie Cruz, Matt David, Travis Dardis, Derek Deatherage, David DeLaCruz, Alisen Dowell, Joe Downey, Andrew Durham, Brian Eberhard, Katharine Ernst & A.J. Smith, Tom Feyoe, Mathew Fox, Timothy Fox, Joseph Gast, Tyler Gedstad, Ereik Hartsell, Jeremy Herbert, Susan Hocker, Yutaro Hosaka, Ben Isla, Tyler Kenobbie, William Kraintz, Tyler Kraintz, Andy Kuehn, Dayna Landry, Charles Philip Lopez, Kelly Mancini, Doran Martin, John Masterson, Bennet D. McGrane, Garrett McMann, Aaron McMurray, Francis Montojo, Joseph M. Paddock, Nathan Paddock, Chris Payant, David Petisor, Darin Pillman, Tim Pillman, Rachael Portoman, Logan Rasmussen, Trey Rasmussen, Tim Reid, Neal Ridge, Tony Rodriguez, Nicholas Roha, Ryan Roux, Matthew Sandoval, April Skou, Jacob and Nikki Steeb, James Thatche, Jadyne Trujillo, Aimee Vigil, Noah Villarreal, Danny Walsh, David Wentling, Kyle William and Brian Wright, Alexander Wrinkle.

Please pray for those who are sick, in pain or recovery, or in need of spiritual healing. (Names will appear for 3 weeks unless an extension is requested.)

- List of names for prayer: Alice Amantea, Bill Amantea, Sheldon Anderson Jr, Talon Bonanno, Eduardo Bravo, Lauri Comly, Madeleine Crepin, Michael W. Donner, Danielle Dulgerian, Dorothy Feldman, Ruben Gomez, Stephany Hammer, Bridgette Hubbard, Michele Kinaan, Angelita Martinez, Allen D. Nelson, Shirley Newton, Patty Nicholson, Karen Paddock, Eleanor Peterson, Roxanne Rosales, Gerry Ryden, Tom Sekel, Shari Sigl, Joan Spagnolo, John Wick.

Please pray for the souls of those who have died:

- James Rafferty, Rich Alway, Mark McAnally, Zoe Mann

—For these and all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

VOCATIONS CROSS

Sunday, November 17th at the 7:45am Mass, Dennis and Michael Harrington will take home the Vocations Cross to pray daily for Vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate and the Religious Life.



Parish Announcements

DID YOU KNOW

Advent begins on Sunday December 1st! On Friday night, December 6th at 7:00pm we will kick off a weekend Advent celebration with a free concert in the church with Sarah Hart and a family friendly celebration in the halls on **Sunday, December 8th from 1- 3pm**. If you would like to help, please contact Laini Harris at greeneyedhockeygal@yahoo.com.
 December 14th at 10:30am we will offer a healing service. Bring your worries and struggles and leave them at the foot of the altar of our Divine Savior. Join us for this intimate service of hope and healing.
 December 20th at 6:30pm We will have our Parish Reconciliation Service, and in order to accommodate our beloved parishoners who cannot drive at night, we will repeat the service at 2pm on December 21st.



Parish Announcements

LITURGY CORNER—

Seeking Baby Jesus....really, we are!

Each year we look for young families that have a newborn to play Baby Jesus during our Christmas Celebrations. Of course, Mom and Dad get to participate as Mary and Joseph, too! Grandparents, are your grandbabies visiting for Christmas? If your family has a new baby, and you will be celebrating with us on December 24th or 25th, please contact Elaine Bauer, Director of Liturgy, at 559-307-4216 or email elaine@divinesavior.com. (baby boys OR girls qualify!)



Parish Announcements

Year over Year Plate Collection Performance

	Week # 18	YTD thru Week # 18
2019-2020 Year	\$17,122	\$314,514
2018-2019 Year	\$ 16,624	\$297,317
Archdiocese for the Military	\$3,526	

Parents' Night Out!!

Wait, what?! It's almost December? I haven't started Christmas shopping yet! Don't worry! Our Divine Savior Parents' Night Out is **Friday, December 13th**. For more information, and to RSVP, email jennifer@divinesavior.com before Wednesday, December 10th.

Be on the Look Out! Vehicle Burglaries

Vehicle burglaries are crimes that occur often. Taking extra safety precautions decrease your chances of becoming a victim of this crime. Please remember:

- Lock and secure all windows and doors when leaving your vehicle
- Do not leave items of value in your vehicle such as GPS, laptops, cell phones, purses, briefcases, etc.
- Do not leave personal identification documents in your vehicle such as title to your vehicle, bank statements, social security cards, pay stubs, etc.
- Park in well lit areas during night
- Use anti-theft devices
- NEVER leave your keys in your car

Knights of Columbus

Last weekend the Knights 9:30 Corporate Communion Mass was an opportunity for the Knights and their families to sit and pray together in a show of respect and fraternity for our deceased Knights: Ted Laitinen, Del Schweiger, Duke McAlpine, Ed Gaucher, John Abu, Joseph Joyce, Ed Barbero, Presley King, Arnold Boehm, Thomas Lawson, John Braucht, Tommy Lee, Peter Burriesce, Bob Morin, Joseph Paddock, Charles Crosby, Donald Perkins, Richmond Dean II, John Ridge, John (Jack) Hill, Paul Romani, Robert Howe, Earl Varney, Ron Jespersen, Fred Vaske, Stanley Lenshyn, and Thomas Maurice.

Ministry Happenings

Giving Garden Update

The 9 garden beds built are just about done with their giving. There are still some tomatoes and butternut squash to harvest. The volunteers have grown pounds of cucumbers, close to 200 squash, melons and lots of tomatoes. They have finished the walkways and the main driveway to make the area more accessible. Here are some of the other things accomplished:

- Tested soil (negative for lead) and secured fencing.
- Leveled and trenched ground, installed irrigation system.
- Received donations for garden equipment and compost bins.
- Involved over 40 parishioners
- Held parish open house; had children tour garden and plant flowers to beautify the area.

Right now leaves are being added to the compost bins to prepare a good amendment for the beds. This will make next year's harvest even better. So the composting effort will continue through the winter. Leaves (except oak leaves) are being accepted by placing them in bags near the bin by the light post. Thanks for any help you can give!

Ministry Opportunities

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Mary at mtthmaryk@outlook.com. We take communion to those unable to go to Mass for an extended period, and we serve 7 assisted living facilities along with doing private communion requests---made through the parish office.



CENTERING PRAYER

Centering prayer is a method of prayer that helps develop a relationship with God by being still and listening. A Centering Prayer group meets at Divine Savior on the **third Tuesday of the month**. The group meets at 9:15am in the St. Cecilia Room. If you'd like to participate in this form of prayer, join us on **November 19th**. Questions? Call Joyce at 916-990-0546.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Prepare for the coming of Christ with a joyful celebration in song and stories for the whole family. Sarah Hart in concert at Divine Savior on **Friday, December 6th at 7:00pm in the church**. Don't forget to invite your friends and family. There is no charge. Find out more about Sarah at <https://www.sarahhart.com/>

This Winter's Eve



An Advent/Christmas Celebration of Stories & Songs with Sarah Hart and special guest PJ Anderson

Prepare for the coming of Christ with a joyful celebration for the whole family